

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of generating a composite style sheet used for transforming an electronic document, comprising:
identifying a plurality of subset style sheets based on content of the electronic document; and
merging the plurality of subset style sheets ~~into a~~ to generate the composite style sheet.
2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of subset style sheets ~~include~~ includes a global style sheet and other subset style sheets, and wherein merging the plurality of subset style sheets includes inserting the other subset style sheets ~~of the plurality of subset style sheets~~ into the global style sheet to generate the composite style sheet.
3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein inserting the other subset style sheets of the plurality of subset style sheets into the global style sheet includes converting a root template in each of the other subset style sheets to a child template.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein inserting the other subset style sheets of the plurality of subset style sheets into the global style sheet further includes adjusting match phrases of embedded child templates and references in each of the other subset style sheets.
5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the other subset style sheets are inserted following a root template of the global style sheet.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying a plurality of subset style sheets includes parsing the electronic document into a document object model and examining first level child elements of the document object model.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein identifying a plurality of subset style sheets further includes matching values of the first level child elements to characteristic identifiers of subset style sheets in a subset style sheet repository and selecting the plurality of subset style sheets from the subset style sheets in the subset style sheet repository based on whether the first level child element values match characteristic identifiers for the subset style sheets.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the composite style sheet in a composite style sheet repository.
9. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 1, further comprising~~ A method of generating a composite style sheet for an electronic document, comprising:
determining if a composite style sheet for the electronic document is present in a composite style sheet repository and, if a composite style sheet for the electronic document is not present in the composite style sheet repository, ~~performing the identifying and merging steps:~~
identifying a plurality of subset style sheets based on content of the electronic document; and
merging the plurality of subset style sheets to generate the composite style sheet.
10. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the global style sheet includes electronic document navigational information.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining if a client device to which the electronic document is to be sent is capable of rendering the electronic document using the composite style sheet, and sending the electronic document to the client device with a reference to the composite style sheet.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising rendering the electronic document using the composite style sheet and sending the rendered electronic document to the client device, if the client device is not capable of rendering the electronic document using the composite style sheet.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the rendered electronic document is one of an HTML document and a WML document.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein identifying a plurality of subset style sheets further includes identifying the plurality of subset style sheets based on characteristics of a client device to which the electronic document is to be sent.

15. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the global style sheet includes a prefix/postfix glue that generates cards from the merged subset style sheets.

16. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for generating a composite style sheet for an electronic document, comprising:

a style sheet repository; and

a transcoder coupled to the style sheet repository, wherein the transcoder identifies a plurality of subset style sheets in the style sheet repository that correspond to the electronic document, based on content of the electronic document, and merges the plurality of subset style sheets ~~into a~~ to generate the composite style sheet.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the plurality of subset style sheets ~~include~~ includes a global style sheet and other subset style sheets, and wherein the transcoder merges the plurality of subset style sheets by inserting the other subset style sheets ~~of the plurality of subset style sheets~~ into the global style sheet to generate the composite style sheet.

18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the transcoder inserts the other subset style sheets of the plurality of subset style sheets into the global style sheet by converting a root template in each of the other subset style sheets to a child template.
19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 18, wherein the transcoder inserts the other subset style sheets of the plurality of subset style sheets into the global style sheet by further adjusting match phrases of embedded child templates and references in each of the other subset style sheets.
20. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the transcoder inserts the other subset style sheets following a root template of the global style sheet.
21. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the transcoder identifies the plurality of subset style sheets by parsing the electronic document into a document object model and examining first level child elements of the document object model.
22. (Original) The apparatus of claim 21, wherein the transcoder identifies the plurality of subset style sheets by further matching values of the first level child elements to characteristic identifiers of subset style sheets in the subset style sheet repository and selecting the plurality of subset style sheets from the subset style sheets in the subset style sheet repository based on whether the first level child element values match characteristic identifiers for the subset style sheets.
23. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising a composite style sheet repository for storing the composite style sheet.
24. (Original) The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the transcoder determines if a composite style sheet for the electronic document is present in the composite style sheet repository and, if a composite style sheet for the electronic document is present in the composite style sheet repository, the transcoder makes use of the composite style sheet in the composite style sheet repository.

25. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the global style sheet includes electronic document navigational information.
26. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the transcoder determines if a client device to which the electronic document is to be sent is capable of rendering the electronic document using the composite style sheet, and sends the electronic document to the client device with a reference to the composite style sheet.
27. (Original) The apparatus of claim 26, wherein the transcoder renders the electronic document using the composite style sheet and sends the rendered electronic document to the client device, if the client device is not capable of rendering the electronic document using the composite style sheet.
28. (Original) The apparatus of claim 27, wherein the rendered electronic document is one of an HTML document and a WML document.
29. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the transcoder identifies the plurality of subset style sheets by identifying the plurality of subset style sheets based on characteristics of a client device to which the electronic document is to be sent.
30. (Original) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the global style sheet includes a prefix/postfix glue that generates cards from the merged subset style sheets.
31. (Currently Amended) A computer program product embodied in a computer readable medium for generating a composite style sheet for an electronic document, comprising:
- first instructions for identifying a plurality of subset style sheets based on content of the electronic document; and
 - second instructions for merging the plurality of subset style sheets ~~into a~~ to generate the composite style sheet.

32. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the plurality of subset style sheets ~~include~~ includes a global style sheet and other subset style sheets, and wherein the second instructions for merging the plurality of subset style sheets include instructions for inserting the other subset style sheets ~~of the plurality of subset style sheets~~ into the global style sheet to generate the composite style sheet.

33. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim ~~22~~ 32, wherein the instructions for inserting the other subset style sheets of the plurality of subset style sheets into the global style sheet include instructions for converting a root template in each of the other subset style sheets to a child template.

34. (Original) The computer program product of claim 33, wherein the instructions for inserting the other subset style sheets of the plurality of subset style sheets into the global style sheet further include instructions for adjusting match phrases of embedded child templates and references in each of the other subset style sheets.

35. (Original) The computer program product of claim 32, wherein the other subset style sheets are inserted following a root template of the global style sheet.

36. (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the first instructions for identifying a plurality of subset style sheets include instructions for parsing the electronic document into a document object model and examining first level child elements of the document object model.

37. (Original) The computer program product of claim 36, wherein the first instructions for identifying a plurality of subset style sheets further include instructions for matching values of the first level child elements to characteristic identifiers of subset style sheets in a subset style sheet repository and selecting the plurality of subset style sheets from the subset style sheets in the subset style sheet repository based on whether

the first level child element values match characteristic identifiers for the subset style sheets.

38. (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, further comprising third instructions for storing the composite style sheet in a composite style sheet repository.

39. (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, further comprising third instructions for determining if a composite style sheet for the electronic document is present in a composite style sheet repository and, if a composite style sheet for the electronic document is not present in the composite style sheet repository, executing the first and second instructions.

40. (Original) The computer program product of claim 32, wherein the global style sheet includes electronic document navigational information.

41. (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, further comprising:
third instructions for determining if a client device to which the electronic document is to be sent is capable of rendering the electronic document using the composite style sheet; and
fifth instructions for sending the electronic document to the client device with a reference to the composite style sheet.

42. (Original) The computer program product of claim 41, further comprising sixth instructions for rendering the electronic document using the composite style sheet and sending the rendered electronic document to the client device, if the client device is not capable of rendering the electronic document using the composite style sheet.

43. (Original) The computer program product of claim 42, wherein the rendered electronic document is one of an HTML document and a WML document.

44. (Original) The computer program product of claim 31, wherein the first instructions for identifying a plurality of subset style sheets further include instructions for identifying the plurality of subset style sheets based on characteristics of a client device to which the electronic document is to be sent.

45. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim ~~42~~ 32, wherein the global style sheet includes a prefix/postfix glue that generates cards from the merged subset style sheets.